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# FISHERIES CONFERENCE OPENED.

NEWFOUNDLAND and UNITED STATES STATESMAN DISCUSSING REGULATIONS.

BOTH PARTIES APPEAR DESIROUS OF REACHING SETTLEMENT.

Under the recent award of The Hague tribunal interpreting the fisheries clauses of the treaty of 1818 between the United States and Great Britain, it was provided that while American fishermen had the right to fish off Treaty coasts of Newfoundland the Newfoundland government had the right to make reasonable regulations governing the taking of fish to apply equally to Americans and their own fishermen.

The tribunal also decided that the matter of determining the reasonableness and fairness of the present Newfoundland regulations should be decided by a commission consisting of two nationals and one neutral, and that future regulations made by Newfoundland must be submitted to the United States before going into effect, and in event of the United States objecting the regulation or regulations in question should go to the permanent mixed fishery commission, the appointment of which is provided for by the Hague award, and the decision of which board shall be final.

In the present case, the Newfoundland government does not like the idea of submitting its present regulations to a commission to pass on as to their reasonableness and fairness, and is anxious to see if some amicable fishing arrangement for the treaty coast can be arranged with the United States, without recourse to the commission.

Newfoundland found the United States ready to meet her on this matter and the present conference at Washington is the result.

The conference opened yesterday at the State department, between secretary Knox and Chandler P. Anderson, the counselor of the state department, representing the American government and Sir Edward Morris, the prime minister of Newfoundland, Sir Allan Aylesworth, the attorney general of

Canada, and Mr. Brodeur, the dominion minister of marine and fisheries.

## The Principal Objections Raised to the Regulations.

A Washington despatch says there are several things which the Gloucester fishermen find vexatious, but the principal ones are the prohibition against Sunday fishing and the use of purse seines.

The Newfoundland law, which applies equally to Newfoundlanders, Canadians and Americans, makes it illegal for anyone to fish from the low tide nearest to 6 o'clock on Saturday evening until the high tide nearest to 6 o'clock on the following Monday morning, thus providing for an enforced period of rest of 36 hours. The American fishermen say that it is a great hardship on them.

The prohibition against Sunday fishing is defended by the Newfoundland government on the ground that it is a wise and humane regulation.

It was discovered many years ago, it is said, that the fish needed a closed season, because if they were fished over day after day they deserted the fishing grounds. One day in the month was taken as the day of rest, and quite naturally it fell on Sunday. Later it was found that one day was not sufficient and Sundays were struck off the calendar as working days.

The use of the purse seine by the Gloucester fishermen is objected to by the Newfoundlanders on the ground that it does great injury to the mass of fishermen by frightening the fish away and also because it is not considered fair play to scoop up the fish in a great bag.

The Gloucester men say the purpose of going to the fishing grounds is to catch fish, that the fish are no more frightened by the purse seine than any other net, and the sooner a vessel can be loaded with a full cargo of fish the sooner it can sail for its home port, dispose of its catch and fill up for a second time.

The time required to make a cargo is

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of less consequence to the Newfoundlanders than it is to the Gloucester men, as the former have no long voyage to make between the fishing grounds and the market, and can afford to be more leisurely in their operations.

Yesterday's discussion showed that both sides were anxious to reach an agreement, and it is believed this will be the outcome of the conference. Concessions will have to be made by both sides.

At the meeting no propositions were put forward by either side, but the temper of the negotiators showed that they wanted to end a vexatious dispute rather than have it drag along for months by another submission to the arbitration court.

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## THE HERRING SITUATION.

CONDITIONS WILL CHANGE DAILY FROM NOW TO CLOSE OF THE SEASON.

Each day now, as the season draws to a close, sees some change in the herring situation on the treaty coast of Newfoundland.

At Bay of Islands yesterday, while no fish were reported in the Middle and North Arms, there was fair fishing in the Humber, which is open again.

The weather now is mild and no herring can be frozen until the next frost sets in, and when that will come is problematical.

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## ONE GEORGESMAN HAS GOOD TRIP.

SCH. SENATOR SAULSBURY THE ONLY ARRIVAL WITH FISH AT THIS PORT.

The only arrival here during the night was sch. Senator Saulsbury, from a Georges headline trip with a good fare, 20,000 pounds of salt cod.

It is blowing hard from the southwest this morning. A number of the market boats went out during the night but will probably be putting back during the forenoon as it looks as though there would be no chance to fish.

### Today's Arrivals and Receipts.

The arrivals and receipts in detail are:

Sch. Senator Saulsbury, Georges, handlining, 20,000 lbs. salt cod.

### Vessels Sailed.

Sch. Grayling, eastern deck handlining.

Sch. Valerie, haddocking.

Sch. Lizzie M. Stanley, haddocking.

Sch. Mary E. Silveria, haddocking.

Sch. Rita A. Viator, haddocking.

Sch. Mary E. Cooney, haddocking.

Sch. Jeannette, haddocking.

Sch. Harriett, haddocking.

Sch. Margaret, Dillon, haddocking.

Sch. Hattie F. Knowlton, haddocking.

Sch. Monitor, halibuting.

### Today's Fish Market.

Bay of Islands salt herring, \$4.12 1-2 per bbl., Bonne Bay salt herring, \$3.62 1/2 per bbl., pickled herring \$5 per bbl.

Eastern deck headline salt cod, \$5.55 per cwt.; for large \$5 for mediums and \$5 for snappers.

Bank halibut 12 cts. per lb. for white, 11 cts. for gray, with the heads on.

Salt cusk, large, \$2.50 per cwt.; medium, \$2.

Salt haddock, \$2 per cwt.

Salt hake, \$2 per cwt.

Salt pollock, \$2 per cwt.

Splitting prices for fresh fish:

Codfish, large, \$2.50 per cwt.; medium, \$1.80; snappers, 80c.

Cusk, large, \$1.75 per cwt.; medium \$1.30; snappers, 50c.

Haddock, \$1.10 per cwt.; hake, \$1.30 per cwt.; dressed pollock, \$1.30 per cwt.; round pollock, \$1.20 per cwt.

Georges headline salt cod, \$5.55 for large and \$5.50 for medium.

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## YEAR'S ARRIVALS NUMBERED 6230.

MOST OF THE VESSELS AT THIS PORT LAST YEAR WERE AMERICAN SCHOONERS.

The arrival of vessels of all kinds at this harbor for the year 1910 averaged 17 daily, the total number for the year being 6230. The report of Boarding Officer Charles O'Brien of the custom house force shows that, as is to be expected, American schooners predominated. The arrivals in detail were as follows:

U. S. government steamers	49
American steamers	792
American tugs	151
American barges	127
American schooners	4937
American barks	3
British schooners	91
British steamers	7
Italian barks	4
Italian ships	1
British barges	2
Norwegian barks	1
From foreign ports	65

Total 6230

Capt. O'Brien, who is a painstaking official and much wrapped up in his work, comments on the fact that during the year many crafts sought the harbor for shelter and anchored under the protecting wing of the Dog Bar breakwater, thus almost daily proving the value of this granite arm at the mouth of the harbor.

The arrivals for the past year were the largest for several years, the total number in 1909 being 6086 and in 1908 being 5862.

### Foreign Fish Trade.

The Fishing Gazette says of the salt fish trade in general:

The first week of the new year is always dull in the fish trade, as indeed it is in many other lines of industry. And yet there is an easy movement, which presages good business in the months to come. Considerable supplies of foreign herring arrived during the week but otherwise stocks are generally low at American consuming centers.

The representative of a leading New York house says that the supply of mackerel will probably be somewhat larger than it has been for the past few years, as a good many fish are yet to be shipped from Ireland and Norway; and they are the size for which there is a popular demand. Mackerel weighing from one pound to two are in light supply, as the North American fishery was practically a failure. The pack in Norway, however, was large, probably over 75,000 barrels; while the Irish pack is about 50,000 barrels. Over 30,000 barrels of the latter have been shipped to date. The fishing is now reported as poor.

Scotch herring are in good demand, but have been scarce, particularly the large fulls.

Consumption is reported as very good at Oporto, and stocks are much reduced.

The higher prices in the Mediterranean for Labrador fish are said to be due to the fact that the weather in France has prevented curing, and large contracts for delivery in November and December were not carried out. The curing places are said to be crowded with fish, and as soon as it can be shipped a drop in prices is looked for. Probably all the Labrador fish on the way will be sold before the French fish can interfere.

### Lunenburg Fish Notes.

Sch. Jewel is loading 1200 quintals of fish at William Duff's for Halifax.

Sch. Stanley sailed for the West Indies on Thursday with fish and lumber shipped by Zwicker & Company, Limited.

The sailmakers' strike has been settled satisfactorily to both sides. The men will receive a slight increase in pay and the employers today gave notice that the price of sailmaking will be increased to seven cents a yard.

Sch. Lloyd-George is at wharf of Zwicker & Company, Limited, ready to sail with fish and lumber to the West Indies.

Sch. Lila B. Hirtle is loading fish at William Duff's for the West Indies.

### Portland Fish Notes.

Fish are scarce at Portland at the present time. The local fleet has either been tied up here or to the eastward because of the bad weather and unable to land the amount of fish usually brought in at this time of year.

After being tied up at Portland since last fall, the schooner Fannie Hayden is now fitting out to go shore fishing from this port. She will be in command of Capt. Ernest Doughty.



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## FEW ARRIVALS BUT MUCH FISH.

FOUR OFFSHORE VESSELS HAVE  
LARGE TRIPS BESIDES THE  
MARKET BOATS.

Arrivals at T wharf this morning are few in number, but the supply of fish is good, as four of them in, are off-shore with fine trips and all the stores have boxes left over from yesterday and are not worrying much about receipts for the rest of the week.

The steam trawler Ripple brought in 81,000 pounds and sch. Onato was also right on deck, with 76,000 pounds. Sch. Rex has 65,000 pounds and sch. Regina, the other off-shore arrival, hauls for 61,000 pounds, 15,000 pounds of which are cod.

Outside of this latter bunch about all the fish in is haddock, of which there was over a million pounds landed on Monday and Tuesday. Three market boats are also in with small fares.

Haddock still hang to the \$2 mark for off-shores, while what few the shore boats have are bringing \$3 this morning. Hake fetched from \$3.50 to \$6, while pollock soared to \$4 and \$4.50.

### Boston Arrivals.

The fares and prices in detail are  
Sch. Rex, 60,000 haddock, 5000 cod.  
Sch. Regina, 45,000 haddock, 15,000 cod, 1000 hake.  
Sch. Onato, 75,000 haddock, 1000 cod.  
Steamer Ripple, 75,000 haddock, 1700 cod, 4000 pollock.  
Sch. Elizabeth W. Nunan, 13,000 haddock, 600 cod, 500 hake, 3000 pollock.  
Sch. Nokomis, 8000 haddock, 3500 cod.  
Sch. Washakie, 12,000 haddock, 2100 cod, 1500 pollock.  
Haddock, \$2 to \$3 per cwt.; large cod, \$5 to \$6; market cod, \$2 to \$4; pollock, \$4 to \$4.50; hake, \$3.50 to \$6.

### DECISION APPROVED.

#### Newfoundland Papers Endorse Action Regarding Purchase of Herring.

A St. John's, N. F., dispatch says: "The action of the colonial cabinet last night in refusing the request of an American fishing concern to be allowed to purchase cargoes of herring from Placentia Bay natives met with wide approval in Newfoundland today. Newspapers of every shade of political opinion in the colony today eulogized editorially the government's action.

"The organs which supported the policies of former Premier Robert Bond declare the request of the American interests to have been 'an exhibition of consummate cheek.'"

### Fulton Fish Market Notes.

Following the holidays trade was light in the salt water fish market, with the exception of Thursday, when some heavy sales were made, mostly to local buyers. Shipping orders were not as heavy as they might be.

Halibut prices were high during the entire week. There was no green western stock in the market until Thursday, when Chesebro Brothers received a carload which sold at 18 to 20 cents per pound.

Eastern halibut was on sale from Tuesday on. It was the first that has been here in some time. During the fore part of the week it brought 22 to 25 cents per pound, while on Thursday and Friday the quotation was 20 cents flat.

Codfish was plentiful and low in price during the first part of the week, but as the week advanced steak cod jumped from 6 to 7 up to 9 to 10 and closed yesterday at 10 cents flat. Market cod brought 7 to 8 cents yesterday. On Thursday it was one cent per pound cheaper.

### Fish Imports.

The imports of fish of all kinds into the United States for the 11 months ending with November last were valued at \$13,223,843. The details are as follows:

Fresh fish, \$1,979,537; cured fish, \$944,810; fish, except shellfish, packed in oil, \$2,571,856; herring, \$2,229,268; mackerel, \$1,706,118; all kinds, \$1,895,605; lobsters, canned and uncanned, \$1,148,403; shrimp and other shellfish and turtles, \$748,247.

The exports of fish from the United States for the 11 months ending with November last were valued at \$7,658,257.

### Has String To It.

The Fishing Gazette says editorially: "The decision of the treasury department to have reviewed the case recently before the board of general appraisers, in which that body allowed free entry of fish 'procured' by Americans in Newfoundland treaty coast waters, comes at an inopportune moment. Reciprocity pourparlers are about opening at Washington, and the Canadians had been put in excellent mood by the olive branch extended by Uncle Sam. Now, it seems, there is a string to it."

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### Large Haddock.

Among haddock landed at T wharf Monday, from sch. Flora, Sears was one that weighed, cleaned, 20 pounds. This is a big fish for haddock, and the fish was remarkably perfect in appearance. It was caught on Jeffries bank.

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## ONE ARRIVAL AT THIS PORT.

ALL THE MARKET BOATS HAVE  
GONE OUT IN HOPE OF A  
FISH DAY.

There were no arrivals at this port during the night. About all of the market boats have gone out and although the glass is well down, there is little or no wind and they may get a fish day out of it.

During the forenoon sch. Elsie arrived from the southwest part of Georges with a good fare, 60,000 pounds of fresh fish.

### Today's Arrivals and Receipts.

Sch. Elsie, Georges, 60,000 lbs. fresh fish.  
Sch. Stiletto, via Boston.  
Sch. Corsair, via Boston.

### Vessels Sailed.

Sch. Colonial, halibuting.  
Sch. Corona, halibuting.  
Sch. Etta Mildred, Georges handlining.  
Sch. Grace Otis, pollock seining.  
Sch. Emily Sears, shore.  
Sch. Annie and Jennie, shore.  
Sch. Joseph H. Cromwell, shore.  
Sch. Manomet, shore.

### Today's Fish Market.

Bay of Islands salt herring, \$4.12 1-2 per bbl., Bonne Bay salt herring, \$3.62 1/2 per bbl., pickled herring \$5 per bbl.  
Eastern deck handline salt cod, \$5.55 per cwt.; for large \$5 for mediums and \$5 for snappers.  
Bank halibut 12 cts. per lb. for white, 11 cts. for gray, with the heads on.  
Salt cusk, large, \$2.50 per cwt.; medium, \$2.  
Salt haddock, \$2 per cwt.  
Salt hake, \$2 per cwt.  
Salt pollock, \$2 per cwt.  
Splitting prices for fresh fish:  
Codfish, large, \$2.50 per cwt.; medium, \$1.80; snappers, 80c.  
Cusk, large, \$1.75 per cwt.; medium \$1.30; snappers, 50c.  
Haddock, \$1.10 per cwt.; hake, \$1.30 per cwt.; dressed pollock, \$1.30 per cwt.; round pollock, \$1.20 per cwt.  
Georges handline salt cod, \$5.55 for large and \$5.50 for medium.

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## LIGHT RECEIPTS AT T WHARF.

BUT BIG FLEET IS EXPECTED TO  
ARRIVE EARLY NEXT  
WEEK.

Fish receipts at T wharf this morning are quite light, but nine shore boats and one off-shore vessel being in. The boats have pretty good catches, while sch. Romance, from Georges, has 47,000 pounds of fresh fish, mostly haddock and the trip was not sold up to 8 o'clock.

Shore haddock brought \$3 and shore large cod, \$5, with hake \$4 to \$5.

The dealers are looking for another big fleet early next week as the off-shore vessels have hustled back to the southwest part of Georges and hope to

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get in another quick trip provided the haddock school there has not been broken up by the big fishing of the past three weeks.

### Boston Arrivals.

The fares and prices in detail are:  
Sch. Mattakesett, 7500 haddock, 2000 cod, 2000 hake.  
Sch. Genesta, 9000 haddock, 2000 cod, 500 hake.  
Sch. Yankee, 6500 haddock, 800 cod, 700 hake.  
Sch. Ethel B. Penney, 10,000 haddock, 700 cod, 1500 hake.  
Sch. Rebecca, 6000 haddock, 800 cod, 700 pollock.  
Sch. Esther Gray, 900 haddock, 7500 cod, 2000 pollock.  
Sch. Romance, 45,000 haddock, 2000 cod.  
Sch. Mary B. Greer.  
Sch. Little Fannie.  
Sch. Reliance, 1500 cod.  
Shore haddock, \$3 per cwt.; shore large cod, \$5; shore market cod, \$3.50 to \$4; hake, \$4 to \$5.  
Off-shore fare unsold.

### Good Shares and Stocks.

The crew of sch. Lizzie M. Stanley shared \$42 as the result of her recent five days haddock trip to Georges, landed at this port.

The crew of the new sch. Valerie shared \$31 as the result of the maiden trip of the vessel, landed at this port.

The crew of sch. Preceptor shared \$54 as the result of her recent fresh halibut trip.

Sch. Vanessa, Capt. William Firth, stocked \$1550 as the result of her recent haddock trip.